

I'm park Ranger Andy Pearson of the National Park Service and I want to welcome you to the June podcast of the Ranger News Network for Massachusetts area National Parks. Here's what's happening at the parks.

-At Springfield Armory National Historic Site,

Continuing through Mid-June, view the "100 Faces of War Experience Exhibit", with Portraits and words of Americans who served in Iraq & Afghanistan. Portraits, painted by Amherst artist Matt Mitchell, will be on display at the park. Contact the park for more information on hours and times.

On Sunday, June 27, attend Armory Day, a living history demonstration showcasing the armory's products throughout the years. Along with displays of period arms and accoutrements, this year will focus on women in the workforce during World War II, when they comprised over 40 % of the workforce. This event is free and will be held on the green of the Springfield Armory from 10-4.

- At Minute Man National Historical Park,

There are a series of special events happening at the park during the month of June. From colonial music to the programs highlighting the birth of the Continental Army, there are numerous happenings at the park on weekends in June. Check out the website for a complete list of events.

-Down at Cape Cod National Seashore,

The park moves into its summer schedule with something for everyone. Here's a sampling of park events offered in June: Tours of the three sisters lighthouses, a walking tour of Nauset marsh, a walking tour of the Provincelands dunes, and much more. A complete listing of daily activities is available on the park's web site.

-At Longfellow National Historic Site in Cambridge

Starting June 21st, Family Sundays return. From 1 to 4 on Sunday afternoons, your family can enjoy talks, puppet shows, music and more. These free family activities take place on the lawn of the Longfellow House.

On June 28th, Christopher Lydon will present a tribute to the late John Updike. This free event begins at 4pm on the east lawn of the Longfellow house. Visit the park's website for more information.

-At New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park, in New Bedford

AHA continues. This free series of programs takes place at the park's visitor center in downtown New Bedford every 2nd Thursday of the month beginning at 5:00pm. For more information you can call (508) 998-8253 ext 205

-At Lowell National Historical Park

Boat tours of Lowell's canals are underway for the summer. On weekends in early June and daily beginning June 20, you can join a park ranger and see firsthand the 5.6 miles of canals which powered the city into the Industrial revolution. Visit the park website for times and fees.

"RiverFest" takes place on June 13 & 14. Join with Rangers on a special boat or walking tour and a music program that emphasize the environment and history of the Merrimack and Concord Rivers. Learn more about the whole range of RiverFest activities at <http://www.sudbury-assabet-concord.org/riverFest>

-At Boston National Historical Park

June marks the 234th anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill. Join park rangers for talks and historic musket firing demonstrations the week of June 13th through the 21st. The talks and demonstrations are free. The event takes place at the Bunker Hill Monument. Visit the park's web site for more information.

-At Salem Maritime National Historic Site in Salem, MA

On Saturday, June 6th, visitors are invited to explore the unfurnished Narbonne House, which was built in 1675 by a successful butcher, and since then has been lived in for three hundred years by craftsmen, tanners, captains, and widows. Park Rangers convey the history, architecture, and archeological finds related to the building. Open to the public for free from 11:00 to 3:00. This is an offering of "17th Century Saturdays", a joint program between the national park and Escapes North, a program to open the North Shore's 17th century architectural treasures on the first Saturday of the month from June to October. For more information, and a list of participating historic buildings, visit www.escapesnorth.com

Many parks are adjusting their schedules for the summer. If you would like more information on any of the above programs and events or are interested in visiting any of the Massachusetts National Parks, please visit our web site at www.nps.gov/state/ma

This is ranger Andy Pearson for the ranger News Network, thanks for joining me.